Story 4-1 『Sleeping Beauty』

I got up around daybreak. The light from the window woke me up.

I rubbed my eyes to wake up my sleepy mind, and my blurry vision gradually cleared.

"… Did we overdo it…?" (Daichi)

I looked around the disastrous scene of the room and felt regret. It's messy.

Scattered sake bottles and food dishes. Everyone sleeping huddled on the floor.

This is too unreasonable.

I want to clean. The impulse to clean right now urged me to move. However, it was still early in the morning. Since I thought it would be bad to wake everyone up after staying up so late, I endured.

… Maybe I should go for a change of pace and take a stroll…?

For the time being, I closed the window curtains and quickly changed my clothes in another room before gently leaving through the entrance way.

"… Ah, Katsuragi-kun. Good morning." (Nanami)

"… What's up, Sajima. Were you taking a walk too?" (Daichi)

I had been walking along the road that went from the house to Gandarosu when I encountered Sajima Nanami from up ahead.

"Yeah, something like that. You also woke up at an unexpected time… Katsuragi-kun?" (Nanami)

"Well, something like that." (Daichi)

"Hmm, well, can I follow you? I also want to deepen my friendship with Katsuragi-kun… is that okay?" (Nanami)

"Yeah." (Daichi)

I agreed with Sajima without resisting and she stood next to me.

… So close, so close. At a distance that I could feel her shoulder.

She held no prejudice against anyone. I am witnessing part of the reason the human named Sajima Nanami is popular.

I started walking even though I was in wonder. Sajima also matched her pace to mine and followed.

“… Between Shuri-chan and Yui-chan, who does Katsuragi-kun like?” (Nanami)

This woman, so abrupt. No privacy at all.

“… That’s sudden. Isn’t there another subject?” (Daichi)

“Ah, sorry. Yesterday, I heard talk about love affairs…” (Nanami)

“To what extent did you hear?” (Daichi)

“… I-it’s a secret…” (Nanami)

Sajima didn’t tell me the contents of the conversation. Though since her face reddened, in seems like the source was her close friends.

… Rather, to what extent to they talk about others…

Yuina is going to be punished when I get back. I cleared my throat to clear away the awkward atmosphere that was beginning to appear.

“This might answer the question… it’s imprudent, but I like those two about the same. They are the most important people in the world to me.” (Daichi)

“… You love them huh.” (Nanami)

“Only good children would love someone such as me. It’s natural.” (Daichi)

… Although it’s true that saying it is embarrassing.

Saying that they even『Love』my ugly side. For Shuri, it will be like that from here on.

“Everyone… everyone is important.” (Daichi)

I clearly said it.

Sajima looked down and said something.

“… Me as well?” (Nanami)

“Hmm?” (Daichi)

“Am I also… included in that『Everyone』?” (Nanami)

“Sajima… what are you saying…” (Daichi)

My words were interrupted.

Suddenly, Sajima came with a kiss that I did not expect.

–However, I blocked it by putting my hand between us.

“Muu…” (Nanami)

Probably because Sajima didn’t succeed, she angrily flailed at my head two, three times.

“… What are you doing…?” (Daichi)

“I wanted to kiss Katsuragi-kun.” (Nanami)

“Why did you want to do something like that, didn’t you listen?” (Daichi)

“Didn’t you say it first? That I was also one of the important『Everyone』?” (Nanami)

“… Haaah.” (Daichi)

Therefore, I wonder where the idiots that want to kiss me are. Though I thought Sajima to be a person with common sense… I may be forced to change my impression of her.

This person is misunderstanding something.

“You know… You are also included in my important『Everyone』.” (Daichi)

“—Eh?” (Nanami)

“… Well, to be precise, you are an important close friend to Shuri and Yuina. I also think of you as important.” (Daichi)

“… Katsuragi-kun, are you coming on to me?” (Nanami)

“No. There was a time when I was charmed by you. Rather, the you of now became like this?” (Daichi)

“… Being denied to that extent… is frustrating. Even though I’m like this, I can still feel pain you know?” (Nanami)

Well, even though we have almost no connection, if I keep receiving so many affectionate smiles from her there may be misunderstanding and end up falling in love, and then Maji LOVE 1000%. [TN: Uta no Prince-sama reference.]

However, I’m different. I’m surrounded by Shuri on the right, Yuina on the left, and Fuuko in the back… oh, the front is vacant. I didn’t add Sajima… but damn, a person that likes me…

The pink-haired Slut came to mind but flicked that thought away.

… Hmm, three people is plenty. Surrounded, I’m surrounded.

“Unfortunately, I already have girls more attractive than Sajima.” (Daichi)

“Uuu… the obstacle is high…” (Nanami)

… However, she continued.

"… If I'm important to you… I'm happy with that." (Nanami)

Sajima was naturally feminine, being bashful.

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After returning from the strange stroll with Sajima, everyone had already gotten up and we had breakfast.

After that, when I tried to go to Leadred for some sword training in the garden, I was stopped in the living room by Lily.

In addition, Shuri, Yuina, Fuuko, and Sajima were sitting there. Arriane and Selen had left with Yuuma and Leadred to go shopping.

Since Yuuma invited them, it's probably a topic that they shouldn't hear.

"… Well then, there is a reason why I gathered you all. However, I want to say something before getting down to business." (Lily)

Lily began to talk.

"Do you know why Gandarosu is enclosed in walls? (Lily)

"Because the forest that surrounds Gandarosu contains demons… right?" (Fuuko)

Fuuko answered. Nothing unusual for her. While we waited she probably examined the area.

Because of the artificially created ten meter high walls that tower around the city, Gandarosu is called a walled city.

Although the walls ruin the view, Gandarosu is surrounded by a thick, lush forest anyways.

If it were an ordinary forest, it would be no problem. However, there are many kinds of demons that live there.

Demons continue to invade and lay waste to towns. Even if it is cut down, it doesn't diminish. The next day, the deforested areas will grow new trees. The cause was still unknown.

So the wall was built as a last resort countermeasure.

"So, this is the important thing—demons don't leave dungeons." (Lily)

"Eh-…" (Fuuko)

Fuuko was so surprised, her voice leaked out. For even Fuuko to not know meant that human beings don't know that information.

Of course, we were hearing this for the first time. Demons don't leave dungeons. The places that demons appear are all dungeons.

Linking this to the previous conversation, this means that…

"The forest that surrounds Gandarosu… is a dungeon?" (Daichi)

"Bingo! That is correct, Hero-sama. This is the dungeon of the Dragonmen's chief, Garfunkel Arthnight. Its name is the Forest of the Demonic Dragon. It's unique as a dungeon in that it is already overflowing with demons from its entrance." (Lily)

"… Wait a minute. Isn't it strange? It feels like this house is definitely at the entrance to the forest…" (Tamaki)

Yuina raised red flags one by one with her explanation.

Her guess is reasonable. I also remember, when I took that stroll I confirmed that.

The mansion is near the forest.

"In the case of Lily's story, doesn't that mean demons will come here? However, no attacks have happened yet. If I had to guess, demons lived here from the start. Is there a case where demons don't attack humans?" (Tamaki)

"Hmph. It's as Shield said. Since that war, demons have been able to attack humans." (Lily)

"Then—" (Tamaki)

"Wait for a moment. Don't be impatient." (Lily)

Lily stopped Yuina, breathing deeply once. Because of that the air that had been disturbed by the new information was reset.

Yuina also seemed to regain her composure.

"… Shield. Once again, you hit the nail on the head. There is in fact, a single exception. When that goddess gives us an order. And so, this means that Messiah-sama knows that we are here." (Lily)

『Then――』

Not only Fuuko this time, all of the voices overlapped. It was like an earthquake.

Lily temporarily cut everyone off, clearly saying what will be the main subject on the agenda.

"Here, in the Forest of the Demonic Dragon――Messiah-sama is sleeping." (Lily)

Story 4-2 『*Demon King*』

The Demon Goddess Messiah sleeps in the Forest of the Demonic Dragon.

It would be simple for her to throw this world into chaos.

People remembered the disaster of the past with fear, and would immediately desperately hunt that person down.

It was information dangerous enough to shake the world.

"… How do you know something like that, Lily? Weren't you sealed up until the other day?" (Daichi)

"That's right. However, I knew it beforehand. The fact that Garfunkel hid Messiah-sama in this dungeon." (Lily)

She began to talk more about the events from those days.

"Remember when I originally spoke about betraying humans for the demon's side in 【Scorching Execution Ground】? This is a continuation of that." (Lily)

"When I became a demon I immediately brought information related to Claria. She had Transfer Gates that connected the world we lived in to this one in various places. Because of that it seemed that she could replenish her dead. Messiah-sama understood the reason why the amount of human soldiers didn't decrease even when they were killed and placed Akina as a commanding officer, forming a special attack unit. The role of the unit was to destruct the Transfer Gates. With the Transfer Gates destroyed one by one, Claria began having trouble replenishing her forces and the situation tilted in the demons' favor. It was enough that we thought we could win by continuing as we had been… However, that didn't go well. Claria summoned the strongest human ever—Terias." (Lily)

"It became a tragedy from there. Terias was a monster. With a single swing of his sword he'd kill tens, hundreds of demons. Akina lost, with Fantra also beaten, the demi-human tribe entirely annihilated. We were the last ones remaining. It was a fierce battle. Even if us three from the Six Demon Generals grouped up, we were no match. In the end, Messiah-sama strained her own power to bury that guy… her injuries were not normal. Messiah-sama weakened, and we also didn't have the energy to fight. Therefore, in the hopes of someday restoring the demon's side, we each were sealed in dungeons. It was Garfunkel that was to take responsibility for hiding Messiah-sama. Therefore, that's how I know… Satisfactory, Hero-sama?" (Lily)

"Y-yeah… That was more than I imagined." (Daichi)

… Yeah. Much more.

Terias' power from the past war. The story was different from what I read from the books in the library.

"Well then, I have another. Want to hear it?" (Lily)

“By all means.” (Daichi)

“… In her last moments Messiah-sama constructed a ritual for us to summon a hero as a countermeasure against Terias for the sake of the demons. Not to be summoned that time, but in the future. The one summoned by that—” (Lily)

Lily pointed her sharp nail towards me.

“… Me?” (Daichi)

At first, I was the only one to manifest a Unique Ability, 『Revenge of the Resented』. Since Fuuko and Yuina also gained『Crimson Eyes of Destruction』and『Chant Substitution』later, it was probably from Messiah falling in love at first sight.

Then, that means I was under Messiah’s watch since the time that I came to this world… the moment I was completely discarded from Claria’s hands in【Rigal’s Den】, my hidden power arose.

As the hero summoned by Messiah.

Therefore, the Hero of Demons. The demon’s hero is not on the side of humanity. Then, I… I am definitely—

“However, Claria is not a fool. It is conjecture on my part from here… but she probably sensed it in advance. Therefore, when she summoned Samejima and the others, her reason was to kill the Demon King. To kill the hero that Messiah-sama summoned… In other words, Hero-sama. You are—the Demon King.” (Lily)

—the enemy of mankind.

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We finished with that shocking story and decided to go to Gandarosu to procure weapons and equipment, piece together a strategy, and adjust our fighting method. Noticing that it had become night, we decided would leave early the next day, and before long we had already each departed to our rooms.

Demon King. The king that stood at the apex of evil, controlling fiends and demons. A symbol of fear that threatened the human race.

I had vaguely guessed it. Also not engaging with Leadred, it became logical thinking about it. Considering my situation as well, it was plenty possible. That being the case, hearing it unexpectedly just then caused my chest to tighten and thump.

First of all, I am an enemy to mankind. I’ve become an existence that should be destroyed…

"… That said, nothing's changed." (Daichi)

I said as I collapsed onto the bed.

I am the Demon King for certain.

However, I am me and that is just a title. I am Katsuragi Daichi. Then, I can decide what to do. Obliterate the cowards who frightened and living in the Royal Palace.

We've already considered things about that. Everyone talked together about it.

We will wake Messiah up first. She was just exhausted, not dead, and according has been storing up magic. Although Messiah instructed the monsters in the dungeons until now attack me in order to increase my strength, it seems the treatment I'll have in the Forest of the Demonic Dragon will be different. There will be no attacks at all.

However, the entrance that hid Messiah was even designed by humans that so that it wouldn't be known. This also seemed to be effective against Claria, so that even that fucking goddess couldn't make a move.

By now, she should be upset by losing Samejima that was her greatest strength. She may soon replace him like back then.

Then now was our best chance. As soon as we find the entrance, we'll all embark. We'll head to Messiah and add her to our group.

Then… we'll crush the remaining classmates as well as Claria.

"… Well then, could you cut it out already, Fuuko…" (Daichi)

"Aww." (Fuuko)

I who had changed my decision lightly flicked the forehead of the red-eyed girl that always clung to me. A pleasant *Pechin* sounded out.

The room assignments on the third floor of the mansion were me and Fuuko, Leadred and Miare, Shuri and Yuina, with Sajima, Selen, and Arianne each having their own room. The Shuraham couple were in the remaining room on the first floor.

By the way, the rights for sharing rooms with me seems to have been decided by a game of rock paper scissors. They seem to do it every night. It is… amusing. Anyway, for now I'm passing time with the Literature Girl Fuuko-san.

… I wonder, can I survive the night…?

Although such a thing might be impolite to the girl… the only thing I see in the future is getting attacked when I fall asleep.

"W-what is it K-Katsuragi-kun… I went through great pains to enjoy this smell…" (Fuuko)

“I think a statement like that is reason enough to—“ (Daichi)

“What’s bad about smelling the fragrance of your beloved person!?” (Fuuko)

It’s no good, this girl. I have to do something quickly.

I turned towards Fuuko who was breathing roughly and looked at her with cold eyes. Reacting to that she embraced my body.

「か、桂木君……。そんな冷たい目で私を見ないでください。……新しい扉を開いちゃいそうです」[TN: Not sure about that last part…]
“K-Katsuragi-kun… please don’t look at me like that… it opens a new door.” (Fuuko)

I wanted Fuuko to learn by example and be positive, or perhaps I should say I wanted to challenge her. Although she’s always so docile, I wondered what kind of character she has always hidden away in her chest. When thinking that, I was glad to see a new side to my important comrade.

“Ah, an opening! Katsuragi-kun!” (Fuuko)

Fuuko jumped at my opening and attached to me, it was a pleasant feeling. In the blink of an eye she had me in a hold and buried her face into my chest.

“Mm~… After all, I love this scent. It calms me down…” (Fuuko)

“Are you willing to go to sleep after calming down? We have to get up early in the morning.” (Daichi)

“That’s not allowed. Because it’s… painful being away from Katsuragi-kun…” (Fuuko)

Fuuko raised her face, and kissed me for a split second. A bit of the soft feeling remained.

“… Ehehe. A kiss… I did it.” (Fuuko)

She said that with a smiling face. However, she noticed for the first time that she was face to face with him. Her expression and tone changed slightly.

She gave the feeling of fragility, of loneliness. Her words trembled slightly.

『… What’s wrong, Fuuko?』would be simple to ask. However, she would try to deny it. She would keep it to herself.

Then, what is the right thing to do?

The correct answer would be『Show through actions』.

“Eh-ah-katsuragiku…” (Fuuko)

I placed my lips on hers. My tongue invaded and entwined with hers. Messily, to indulge in it.

"… Haah… Katsuragi…kun…?" (Fuuko)

When our lips separated, there was a clear thread stretched between us. Her glossy lips rapidly increased my desire. Her cheeks were flushed. Her broken breathing was captivating, her power escaping by her defenseless exposed body. I peeked down into the cleavage of her projected breasts.

"… Fuuko… There has never once been a time where I have lost interest in you." (Daichi)

"–…" (Fuuko)

Fuuko's expression trembled. Her eyes shook.

"Is that… the truth?" (Fuuko)

"Yeah. I think Fuuko is also cute… above all I find you attractive… Unfortunately I'm the kind of man that is particularly honest about that…" (Daichi)

"… Ah… Katsuragi-kun… that's…" (Fuuko)

"… Since it is embarrassing, please don't say any more… However, with this do you understand? I also think of you as precious. I also love Fuuko. However, it's shameful that I cannot say you are the only one." (Daichi)

"… No. It's not like that. I mean, right now, I am so happy…" (Fuuko)

And so even though Fuuko had stashed it away, it overflowed all at once. I caught her, and embraced her.

Fuuko spoke while crying.

… She was afraid. Even though she tried her hardest to appeal I treated her lightly and didn't lay hands on her, yet the girls around her received my affection.

Despite that she would put on a smiling face to not worry me, hiding herself as always. Due to that when just the two of them were alone together she'd reached her limit.

"Someone like me has no good points. At that time… I felt that I had returned to being someone that didn't stand out at all… I… I was scared." (Fuuko)

"…. I am sorry. Fuuko went through a painful experience because of me…" (Daichi)

"It's… already okay. I understand that Katsuragi-kun likes me… … And—" (Fuuko)

Fuuko's hand extended towards my lower abdomen, putting on a smile.

"… From now on… I will… experience your love as well you know?" (Fuuko)

“… As you command, plenty of it.” (Daichi)

By the third kiss, she pushed me down in order to sit on top of and embrace me.

Story 4-3『*The First Couple*』

“Fuwah…” (Daichi)

“… You seem awful sleepy, Katsuragi-kun.” (Shuri)

“… I guess. I didn’t get to sleep till late from hearing those things yesterday.” (Daichi)

“… Hmm.” (Shuri)

I’ll just pretend to be convinced. Katsuragi-kun may be skilled at deception but I can tell when he’s lying.

Katsuragi-kun’s lack of sleep, and Hayase-san’s skin shining one and a half times more than normal.

There can only be one conclusion drawn from these.

Those two cross that line last night.

Katsuragi-kun lacked sleep because of the act.

… Uuu… this is bad… Even though it was just me I had almost completely finished besieging Katsuragi-kun.

A substantial three people became Katsuragi-kun’s brides. Nanamin also said she was interested in Katsuragi-kun…

… No. Losing your nerves is no good. Because we are now alone together at last.

To search efficiently, we divided the Forest of the Demonic Dragon into north, south, east, and west. We decided to search one direction each day.

Additionally, we partitioned it into four segments to search for the entrance faster. Since only demons couldn see it (Katsuragi-kun being an exception as he is the hero of demons), we split in to four teams in all. The members were evenly distributed into『Katsuragi-kun, me』『Leadred-san, Arianne-san, Hayase-san』『Miare-san, Yui-chan, Nanamin』『Lily-san, Yuuma-san, Selen-san』. The person who finds the entrance would inform the others by launching a red smoke bomb into the sky.

This layout was created by Yui-chan considering the power balance of the members… Although I say that, demons won’t come to attack us…

This fact was legitimized by us encountering demons several times and us passing through them without stopping. Nevertheless that doesn’t mean that we should lower our guard.

“There’s no reaction here… It would be good if the other three teams found it though.” (Daichi)

Katsuragi-kun shrugged and shook his head.

Although he said that, he didn’t seem to expect much. Each team was divided approximately evenly. Given that we finished examining the area we were in charge of today, it would be reasonable to think that the other teams have already finished as well.

The first day was a failure huh… Unfortunate. There isn’t much time left. We have to unfasten the seal on the goddess while Claria is preoccupied with replenishing her forces.

We needed to carefully and quickly handle this. It was nerve-wracking. Actually Katsuragi-kun seemed tired as well, so we sat down and took a break.

“Are you alright, Katsuragi-kun?” (Shuri)

“Yeah, I’m just a little tired. We’ll rest for a moment and return to the house.” (Daichi)

“I see… Then, I’ll also…” (Shuri)

I laid down next to Katsuragi-kun. Therefore, the conversation paused.

It’s not that I couldn’t speak exactly.

My heart was broken by Lily’s trial in the【Scorching Execution Ground】, but Katsuragi-kun still knew that we were advancing closer together. At that time, I wonder just how much was I saved.

Several days have passed since then. As a friend to Katsuragi-kun, I could only be in contact with him as a friend. I stopped using keigo to start with. Although until now I could simply tell him my feelings in my usual tone, I stopped that as well.

After that I had lost the housework to someone else.

It became a rotation system, so that I could also have days off.

Or more precisely, Arianne-san is amazing. She has many dishes in her repertoire, her skill is… although it’s frustrating, better than mine. He other housekeeping abilities were also amazing. She even cleaned the rooms that weren’t being used, finishing so that there wasn’t even a speck of dust. I thought that I would ask for her to teach me her skills, but was too embarrassed to ask.

So then I asked Selen-san who was together with Arianne-san from the start and it seemed she was the daughter of a high-class family. However, she didn’t know any more than that. Although she was a perfect superwoman, it felt wasted because of her personality. A disappointing beautiful girl.

とはいえ、彼女のおかげで私が楽ができており、その時間を桂木君との交流に当てている。おかげで細かな変化とかもわかってきた。例えば、トマトのよ うな食材が嫌いだとか、中二病みたいな一面があったりとか。たまに、早瀬さんの紅い瞳を見て「……かっこいいよな、あれ」と無意識に呟いているのは私たち だけの秘密だ。
[TN: I apologize in advance… I have no clue what is going on in this paragraph…]
That said, it's much easier thanks to her, and I can spend time with Katsuragi-kun. I came to understand a few things about him as well. For instance, he dislikes ingredients like tomatoes, and is a chuunibyou or something. Sometimes, when seeing Hayase-san's red eyes we would unconsciously mutter "… Those are so cool."

Even on the way to Gandarosu, I thought now that we had a base I would be sure to find out more about him. I was genuinely happy.

I thought that it was good to try over again from as a friend. Because I understood that I failed that time.

… However, I felt that this relationship is frustrating as well.

"… Hey, Katsuragi-kun." (Shuri)

"What's up?" (Daichi)

"If you're tired… do you want… a lap pillow?" (Shuri)

"… An attractive offer, but we should wait a bit more." (Daichi)

あの日からこうやってはぐらかされるようになった。彼曰く、ここで甘えたら意味がないから……との弁。
He'd evaded me in this way since that say. According to him, it was useless to behave spoiled here…

I understood what he wanted to say. Although I understood… is it selfish for me to think this isn't good? Girls would be anxious at all times after all.

Especially Yui-chan's recent amazing 'dere' style. She even called Katsuragi-kun 『Daichi』.

……ちょっとだけうらやましい。特別な関係にもなったんだとか、申し訳なさそうに私に言ってきた。……謝りながらも幸せオーラを醸し出していたので軽く拳骨したけど。
… I'm only a little envious. The fact is that it's become a special relationship, and I was apologetic… however, despite that I exuded a happy aura and lightly clenched my fists.

"… Haah." (Shuri)

There are many rivals around me.

I was just the first… they've increased.

… I feel like maybe Katsuragi-kun is a womanizer… Although it was a miracle that he was looking after everyone it didn't make me feel happy.

… I thought about too much about the small things. My emotions were welling up endlessly.

… Let's calm down. I closed my eyes as I thought so.

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"Uu… n…?" (Shuri)

The scenery had changed when I opened my eyes. I was looking up at the open sky, not the numerous lush trees that were spread throughout my vision. My viewpoint was higher than usual as well, and I was swaying back and forth.

"Ah, you woke up, Shuri." (Daichi)

I understood what kind of situation I was in without words. I am… on Katsuragi-kun… a piggyback ride.

"Eh…. What, why…?" (Shuri)

"Oh. Since Shuri looked too comfortable sleeping there, I carried you without waking you up." (Daichi)

Suddenly waking up, I was embarrassed.

Though since I can snuggle with his body, I can endure it. Because I have the experience from up till now.

My sleeping face was seen by the boy I love. Even during our love affair in【Rigal's Den】, Katsuragi-kun fell asleep late, and I got up early. This is very embarrassing.

You might say so what. But I don't like it. My untidy side was seen.

Even though I had been careful until now… I was even seen in such a place…

"Uwah…" (Shuri)

I was embarrassed and reflexively buried my face into his neck to hide.

"… What's wrong?" (Daichi)

"… I don't want you to know, probably." (Shuri)

“… Now I want to know. But… well, it’s fine. I was even able to see Shuri’s cute sleeping face again.” (Daichi)

“Eh…? Again?” (Shuri)

“Yeah. The day before yesterday, when you celebrated with everyone. At that time you were drooling.”

“—-!?” (Shuri)

My face turned bright red from it coming out.

D-drool…!? Something like that was seen…!

I want to a hole and bury myself in it right now. I want to go hide. I can’t make eye contact with Katsuragi-kun for at least three days.

“Uuu… uuu….” (Shuri)

“… What are you moaning about, Shuri-san?” (Daichi)

“I-if you see drool wake me up! Even if a gentleman saw it they wouldn’t say it!” (Shuri)

“… Perhaps, are you worried that I saw your sleeping face?” (Daichi)

“Uuu…” (Shuri)

I felt my response was straightforward. Bulls-eye. Katsuragi-kun had on a wry smile looking at me with such a face.

“You shouldn’t mind something like your sleeping face you know?” (Daichi)

“I mind!” (Shuri)

My beloved person saw my goofy drooling face. He saw an uncool image. Katsuragi-kun wouldn’t understand how embarrassing it was. Of all the things that he could say, he said that. I’m sure only girls would understand.

“I’ve seen more embarrassing things. We both have.” (Daichi)

“Wha-!? T-that’s a different issue! In the first place, Katsuragi-kun should have more decen—“ (Shuri)

“There’s the missing cute Shuri I love.” (Daichi)

—My heart thumped with a great *Dokun*. At the same time, my chest felt as though it were suddenly attacked by a cold feeling. There was no warmth until a moment ago. In exchange, this time was different from before… a warm and passionate feeling gently took hold.

… In spite of having placed a prohibition for things like that on myself, that surprise attack was sly, me. [TN: Talking at herself. Lol.]

Thanks to that, the anger I felt from my sleeping face flew away somewhere.

… Come on. I have to hide my face for a different reason now. If I said ‘love’, I wonder if you would forgive it all, Katsuragi-kun.

Idiot. Idiot. Idiot. Idiotic Katsuragi-kun. [TN: Baka!]

I love you.